

California State Parks - Junior Ranger Program



Geology - A self-guided activity for Junior Rangers

Geology is more than just the study of rocks. It tells the story of the piece of land you are standing on right now!

Describe the shape, color, and texture of the land in the area where you are right now!

Draw a picture of it --- Include mountains, streams, hills, etc.

Can you find some dirt? *Yes* *No* Describe what it looks like.

Can you find a rock? *Yes* *No*

Describe what it looks like.

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There are three kinds of rocks on our planet. *Metamorphic rock* has been changed by heat and pressure deep inside the earth. *Sedimentary rock* is formed by layers of sand and clay distributed by water or wind over time. *Igneous rock* is formed from melted rock material called magma.

Use the definitions from above to complete these sentences.

A rock with different visible layers would be a _____ *Rock*

Solidified lava from a volcano would be called an _____ *Rock*

Fossils are impressions of animals that have been preserved in layers of rocks.

What type of rock would they be found in *Metamorphic* *Sedimentary* *Igneous*

Erosion is a process of wind and water rubbing away at mountains.

Circle any of the following things that may have formed by erosion:

steep ocean cliffs *sand* *lawns* *soil* *pavement*

sea *tunnels* *canyons* *rounded hills* *buildings* *bricks*

How do humans use rocks?

Giant plates of land are under our feet. These plates are arranged like a jigsaw puzzle. If one moves out of position, it causes the others to move.

What do they call these large movements of the earth?

